

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 03338 270416Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EA-10 ISO-00 L-03 MCE-00 OMB-01
TRSE-00 AID-05 ACDA-12 EB-08 DODE-00 CTME-00
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 /087 W
-----083323 272306Z /45

R 270100Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0781
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 3338

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, SN, CI
SUBJECT: IMPOUNDMENT BY U.S. CUSTOMS OF SINGAPORE ARMS SHIPMENT
TO CHILE

REF: A) SINGAPORE 3110, B) STATE 154590

1. SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT INFORMS US THAT IMPOUNDED SHIPMENT
OR MORTARS FOR CHILE HAS APPARENTLY BEEN RELEASED BY U.S.
CUSTOMS AND HAS ARRIVED BACK IN SINGAPORE. INCIDENT CAN
THUS BE CONSIDERED CLOSED.

2. ASSUME RELEASE OF THE SHIPMENT RESULTED FROM DEPARTMENT'S
INTERCESSION. DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE MUCH APPRECIATED.

3. ALTHOUGH EVENTUALLY RESOLVED IN SATISFACTORY MANNER,
THIS INCIDENT DOES, HOWEVER, RAISE QUESTIONS RE ADEQUACY OF
COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN USG ESTABLISHMENT. SINGAPOREANS
INFORMED DAO IN EARLY MARCH THAT SHIPMENT HAD BEEN IMPOUNDED
FOR REASONS UNKNOWN TO THEM AND ASKED DAO'S ASSISTANCE IN
ASCERTAINING THE FACTS. DAO MESSAGES TO U.S. CUSTOMS IN
LOS ANGELES AND LATER TO HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON WERE
NEVER ACKNOWLEDGED. IT WAS NOT UNTIL LATE JUNE THAT WE
RECEIVED REF B, WHICH GAVE US FIRST INKLING AS TO WHAT HAD
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HAPPENED TO SHIPMENT IN LOS ANGELES. OUR RESPONSE AND
SEVERAL SUBSEQUENT MESSAGES TO DEPARTMENT WERE ALSO NOT
ACKNOWLEDGED. ESPECIALLY AFTER SINGAPORE FOREIGN MINISTRY
RAISED ISSUE WITH US, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN HELPFUL IF WE HAD BEEN
ABLE TO GIVE THEM EVEN ONE STATUS REPORT ON CASE. INSTEAD,
WE HAD TO LEARN FROM SINGAPOREANS OF ITS SATISFACTORY DIS-
POSITION.

4. PERHAPS WE HAVE BEEN USING WRONG CHANNELS. WITH SINGAPORE BEGINNING TO EMERGE AS MINOR EXPORTER OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT, NOT UNLIKELY THAT CASES OF THIS SORT WILL RECUR. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE ON HOW THEY SHOULD BE HANDLED IN FUTURE TO AVOID INFORMATION GAP SUCH AS OCCURRED IN THIS ONE. INGRAHAM

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, ARMS SHIPMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SINGAP03338
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780309-0075
Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780713/aaaaalez.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7e2ed76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 SINGAPORE 3110, 78 STATE 154590
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1866761
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IMPOUNDMENT BY U.S. CUSTOMS OF SINGAPORE ARMS SHIPMENT TO CHILE
TAGS: MILI, SN, CI
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7e2ed76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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